

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 15-19.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Ben in the August 4 telephone interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication that claims 1-14 and 20-26 are allowed. Applicants also gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication that claims 15-19 contain allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects claims 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claims 15 and 19, Applicants used the term "fix" in claim 15 to mean "to capture or hold" (American Heritage Dictionary 3rd Ed. 515). As shown in at least Figs. 16 and disclosed on page 16, lines 8-20, the colorant particles 130 are captured between the two substrates 50a, 52a (i.e., they are bound by but may move within the two substrates 50a, 52a). In order to make claims 15 and 19 abundantly clear and to avoid any confusion that may result from the use of the term "fix," Applicants amend claim 15 to recite "capture" rather than "fix." Thus, as agreed during the telephone interview, amended claims 15 and 19 are definite. Applicants respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15 and 19.

Applicants note that claims 16-18 do not depend from claim 15. Rather claims 16-18 depend from claims 1, 3, and 5, respectively. Thus Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16-18 are patentable for at least the reasons that claims 1, 3, and 5 are patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 16-18.

Finally, by this Amendment applicants amend claims 15-19 to correct a number of informalities. Applicants amend claim 15 to recite "mating" rather than "making." Support

for this amendment may be found at least on page 6, lines 8-12. Applicants amend claims 16-19 to add periods.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants earnestly solicit favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-26.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Jesse O. Collier
Registration No. 53,839

JAO:JOC/tea

Date: August 5, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--